July 27, 2019

2019 FARM TOUR & HARVEST SALE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
30TH ANNUAL!
SATURDAY, JULY 27
SUNDAY, JULY 28
WWW.MONTGOMERYCOUNTYMD.GOV/FARMTOUR

Farm Tour and Harvest Sale!
Saturday, July 27 & Sunday, July 28

The Montgomery County Office of Agriculture is hosting the 30th annual Farm Tour and Harvest Sale on Saturday, July 27 and Sunday, July 28. This is your opportunity to explore the farms and learn more about farming as a way of life in Montgomery County. Learn more about the Agricultural Reserve and the Farm Tour by watching this video. For more information about the participating farms and locations, check out the Farm Tour brochure.

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ADUs

Council Approves Zoning Change for Accessory Dwelling Units

The Montgomery County Council unanimously adopted Zoning Text Amendment 19-01 this week, removing significant barriers for homeowners who wish to build Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on their properties. An ADU is a second, separate living unit on a lot zoned for single unit development. ADUs can be built by converting a basement into an apartment, adding an addition to an existing house, building an apartment over a garage, converting an existing shed or detached garage, or building a new backyard cottage. An ADU is distinguished from renting out part of a house because it is a totally separate living unit, with a separate entrance, bathroom and kitchen. Read more at
https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=23341&Dept=1

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Watch Out for the Racers!

Roads around the Maryland SoccerPlex, as well as Schaeffer Road and Old Buck Lodge Road will be affected early Sunday morning (7/28) with the Road Runners Club's Riley's Rumble Half-Marathon and 8K between 5:30am and 11:30am. Enjoy the race and drive safely!

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Road Closures for the Upcoming Week

Here is a link to this coming week's planned major construction-related lane closure update from the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) District 3.

<p style="text-align:center">https://www.roads.maryland.gov/OC/D3_LANE_CLOSURES.pdf</p>

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Business Connect Upcounty

Montgomery County *Business Connect Upcounty* is pleased to host the following classes and counseling opportunities for our businesses. *Business Connect* is a program of Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich that is designed to make business services available in the community. In addition to classes and one-on-one business counseling, the Montgomery County Small Business Navigator is on-site at the Upcounty Regional Services Center to help businesses in the region connect to county resources, services and departments.

Visit the Montgomery County Business Portal for valuable business information, a listing of training & workshops and contact information for the Montgomery County Business Solutions Group which includes the small business navigator and business liaison officers who are available to assist local businesses.

Orientation to Maryland Women's Business Center & Supporting Resources
Tuesday, July 30, 2019
10 a.m. to noon
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Rd., Room B
Germantown, MD 20874

The Hiring Process…And After!
Wednesday, July 31, 2019
10 a.m. to noon
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Rd., Room B
Germantown, MD 20874

Six Big Legal Mistakes Entrepreneurs Make and How to Avoid Them
Tuesday, August 6, 2019
10 a.m. to noon
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Rd., Room B
Germantown, MD 20874

One-on-One Business Counseling with Latino Economic Development Center
Contact mgodoy@ledcmetro.org to schedule an appointment.
Tuesday, August 6, 2019
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Rd., Room 1
Germantown, MD 20874

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For Montgomery County Rec and Montgomery Parks classes and programs.
Visit https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/ for information.

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Take the 4Business Climate Survey

Montgomery County has launched a new survey, the 4Business Climate Survey, as part of its 4Business: Benchmarking to Be the Best for Business initiative. This is the next step in gathering information to evaluate Montgomery County's business environment. Responses will help inform the County about actions it can take to encourage businesses to locate, expand and thrive here. Survey responses will also be used to enhance business and County relations.

The 4Business Climate Survey includes four sections: general background about businesses; feedback on the business environment in the County; experience with the County procurement requirements; and ease of access to government. There are 55 questions, and the survey takes about 20 minutes to complete. The survey was developed with support and input from focus sessions with the business community.

Read more at https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=23339

Take the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/4BusinessClimate2019

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Montgomery County Office of Procurement to Host Open House
Wednesday, August 21   10:00am - 11:00am
255 Rockville Pike, Suite 180
Rockville, MD

Watch the VIDEO from the July Open House!

Active LSBRP Solicitations

1104876 **Pet Waste Removal Project**
Closing date: August 6, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

1103863 **Canine Veterinary Services**
Closing date: August 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

1106617 **Wheaton Library Café**
Closing date: August 23, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

For a full list of solicitations and other news, visit Procurement's website.

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Promoting Community Trust

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich held a press conference recently for the signing of the Promoting Community Trust Executive Order. Elrich was joined by members of the County Council and other community leaders. The Promoting Community Trust Executive Order reaffirms current County policy and improves community security by ensuring that immigrant and otherwise vulnerable communities can engage with County departments, including public safety departments, with assurance that such engagement will not be used to assist in civil immigration enforcement or a federal discriminatory practice.   Watch video of the event from YouTube

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Community Advocacy Institute

The Community Action Board is now accepting applications for the Community Advocacy Institute. This FREE program includes workshops featuring guest speakers, activities to practice advocacy skills, and networking opportunities. Participants must be Montgomery County residents with household incomes of $55,000 or less.

Apply online HERE by August 16.

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Montgomery County is committed to building and maintaining a safe and inclusive community for our residents. Understanding, tolerance, and respect are hallmarks of the Montgomery County way. Social justice for all is what we strive to achieve in our County.

If you, or someone you know, needs immigrant assistance, visit montgomerycountymd.gov/immigration.
View procedures for handling visits from immigration officers to County facilities here.

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Montgomery Council Seeks Applicants for County Board of Appeals
Deadline to Apply Extended to Friday, August 16 at 5:00 pm

The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants for two four-year terms on the County Board of Appeals. The second term of Stan Boyd (Democrat) will expire in September 2019, and he is not eligible to reapply. The first term of Bruce Goldensohn (Republican) also expires in September 2019, and he has indicated that he plans to reapply. Applications for the positions must be received no later than 5:00pm on Friday, August 16.

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All About Ride On Flex—in 30 Seconds Flat
Check out the brief video about the new Ride On Flex service in Glenmont/Wheaton and Rockville.

Mobility Lab Asks: Will Flex Be a Microtransit Success Story?
Ride On Flex, the new on-demand public transit service operating in Rockville and Glenmont/Wheaton zones, is the subject of a new Mobility Lab story.

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A Message from Food and Facilities Licensing Office . . .
Summer Food Safety

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-Special/SummerFoodSafety.html

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Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection Searching for New Site for Larger, Modernized Recycling Facility; Examining Robotics
Submissions are due by 3:00pm on September 20.

At a time when jurisdictions across the nation are reconsidering aspects of their recycling programs, Montgomery County is continuing its commitment to increase recycling and reduce trash. The County has announced it is searching to find industrial properties that would allow expansion and modernization of its recycling operations. Modernized technology for sorting of recycled materials now includes optical sorters and robotics.

The County's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is considering partnering with other counties in the region, which may allow for a broader, optimized solution.   The County's Department of General Services, on behalf of DEP, has issued the search notice, asking that submissions be forwarded by 3:00pm on September 20. The County will consider both vacant and improved industrial land. Details of the solicitation are available at https://tinyurl.com/y4zdaoos. Montgomery County has been recognized as a national leader in solid waste management. While the County has achieved an overall recycling rate of around 60 percent (for residential and businesses combined), DEP is constantly looking for ways to increase that rate.

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As One Path to Homeownership, County Executive Elrich Wants Homebuyers to be Aware of a Potential Funding Source

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich encourages residents to apply for the Montgomery Homeownership Program of down payment assistance. The program is now accepting applications and is available to help homebuyers who qualify.

Read more at https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=23329

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For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:
County Council https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council
Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:
Department of Public Libraries http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library
Department of Recreation   http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec
Department of Transportation http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html
Department of Environmental Protection http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep
Department of Permitting Services https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps
Montgomery County Volunteer Center http://www.montgomeryserves.org
Office of Community Partnerships   https://montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships
Commission for Women   https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw
Parks Department http://www.montgomeryparks.org/
Planning Department http://montgomeryplanning.org/
Department of Health and Human Services www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs